



Maryland Community Health System

Committee:	Senate Finance Committee
Bill:	Senate Bill 440 – Commission to Study the Health Care Workforce Crisis in Maryland – Establishment
Hearing Date:	February 10, 2022
Position:	Support with Amendments

Maryland Community Health System supports with amendments *Senate Bill 440 – Commission to Study the Health Care Workforce Crisis in Maryland – Establishment*.

The Commission will convene experts to conduct a comprehensive review of Maryland’s health care workforce. This review will help guide near-term and long-term policy initiatives to address the areas of greatest need, including the current behavioral health provider shortage.

We would like to request just two clarifying amendments:

Amendment 1: Input from health providers: On page 2 in line 21, strike “may” and replace with “shall”.

Explanation: The bill permits the Commission to establish advisory committees, but we believe that the Commission must involve the broader stakeholder community.

Amendment 2: Expand focus to community health centers: On page 2 in line 29, add “community health centers” after “nursing homes”

Explanation: The evaluation of shortages will only be complete if the Commission includes community health centers, which would include federally qualified health centers and school-based health centers.

We ask for a favorable report, and we stand ready to assist the Committee in every way possible in this endeavor. If we can be helpful in any way, please let us know by contacting Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.